

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An interactive TV device, comprising:

an input, the input being configured to accept a plurality of input streams from a corresponding plurality of input connections;

an input multiplexer coupled to the input, the input multiplexer not including a tuner;

an output, the output being configured to selectively output a plurality of output streams;

an output multiplexer coupled to the output, the output multiplexer not including a tuner;

a first digital bus coupled between the input and output multiplexers, the first digital bus being uninterrupted between the input and the output multiplexers such that a digital signal presented at the input multiplexer is carried unchanged over the first digital bus to the output multiplexer;

an analog bus connected between the input and the output multiplexers, the analog bus being separate from the first digital bus and including a video signal decoder coupled to the input multiplexer and a video signal encoder coupled to the output multiplexer, and

a graphics processing assembly coupled to the first digital bus and to the analog bus.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the input is configured to accept an input stream selected from a group including an analog video source, a digital video source, an IP connection, a video stream from a data carrier, a video stream from a video camera, an IR connection, a wireless connection, a Universal Serial Bus-compatible port and the output of the interactive TV device.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the output is configured to selectively output a video stream to at least one of a plurality of TV outputs, a disk recorder, to the input of

the device, to a network, to a Universal Serial Bus-compatible port, to a SCART-compatible port and to a computer display.

4. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, wherein the digital bus is configured as a Digital Video Bus (DVB).

5. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 1, wherein the input multiplexer is configured to selectively route at least one of the plurality of input video streams onto at least one of the digital bus and the analog bus.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 1, wherein the output multiplexer is configured to selectively route at least one video signal from at least one of the digital bus and the analog bus to the output.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 1, wherein the video signal encoder includes a PAL or NTSC or SECAM encoder and wherein the video signal decoder includes an HDTV or PAL or NTSC or SECAM decoder.

8. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising memory and disk storage, the memory and the disk storage being accessible via a command bus that is coupled to the input, the output and to the graphics processing assembly.

9. **(Original)** The device of claim 8, wherein the disk storage includes at least one of a magnetic hard disk and an optical disk reader and recorder.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 8, further including a watchdog processor, the watchdog processor being coupled to the analog bus and the command bus and

being configured to monitor a state of the device and to monitor and regulate traffic on the analog and command buses.

11. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, wherein the graphics processing assembly includes first graphics engine and a second graphics engine.

12. **(Original)** The device of claim 11, wherein the first graphics engine includes a hardware video encoder and a hardware video decoder, both the video encoder and decoder being coupled to the digital bus and to the analog bus.

13. **(Original)** The device of claim 12, wherein the hardware video encoder and the hardware video decoder conform to a Motion Pictures Expert Group (MPEG) standard.

14. **(Original)** The device of claim 12, further comprising a Central Processing Unit (CPU) coupled between an output of the video encoder and an input of the video decoder, the CPU also being coupled to the digital bus.

15. **(Original)** The device of claim 12, wherein the second graphics engine includes a graphics processor coupled to the CPU.

16. **(Original)** The device of claim 12, wherein the graphics processing assembly further includes a video controller coupled to the CPU and the output.

17. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising an integrated video camera.

18. **(Original)** The device of claim 17, wherein the video camera is configured to automatically track a person.

19. **(Original)** The device of claim 17, further comprising an auto-tracking analog controller configured to control the integrated video camera using analog signals from a videocomposite signal generated by the integrated video camera.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 19, wherein the auto-tracking analog controller includes:

means for separating scan lines signals and frames signals from the videocomposite signal;

a horizontal displacement controller configured to generate a move left signal and a move right signal from the scan lines signals and the videocomposite signal to control right and left movement of the integrated video camera, and

a vertical displacement controller configured to generate a move up signal and a move down signal from the frames signals and the videocomposite signal to control up and down movement of the integrated video camera.

21. **(Original)** The device of claim 20, wherein the horizontal displacement controller is configured to carry out a comparison of a current horizontal position of the person as determined from the scan lines signal and the videocomposite signal with a previous horizontal position of the person and to selectively output either the move right signal or the move left signal depending upon a result of the comparison.

22. **(Original)** The device of claim 20, wherein the vertical displacement controller is configured to carry out a comparison of a current vertical position of the person as determined from the frame lines signal and the videocomposite signal with a previous vertical position of the

person and to selectively output either the move up signal or the move down signal depending upon a result of the comparison.

23. **(Original)** The device of claim 17, further comprising a removable cover configured to be fitted over a front face of the interactive TV device to physically obscure a field of view of the camera.

24. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising at least one of a smart card reader and a magnetic card reader.

25. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, wherein the device is further configured to connect to at least one of a keyboard and a pointing device.

26. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising at least one microphone.

27. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, wherein the device is configured to retrieve a list of available service and content providers from a remote server over a network, based upon a localization indicium supplied to the remote server.

28. **(Original)** The device of claim 27, wherein the localization indicium is selected from a group including an area code of a region in which the device is located, a geographical coordinate obtained from Global Positioning Satellites and an indication of a present time and time zone.

29-32. **(Canceled)**

33. **(Original)** The device of claim 8, further comprising a removable drawer including a plurality of electronic modules, the removable drawer being configured to

electrically couple selected one of the plurality of electronic modules to at least one of the command bus, the analog bus and the digital bus.

34. **(Original)** The device of claim 8, further comprising means for recording incoming analog or digital video streams and storing the recorded video streams on the disk storage.

35-36. **(Canceled)**

37. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising means for Web browsing.

38. **(Original)** The device of claim 1, further comprising means for composing and managing email.

39-77. **(Canceled)**

78. **(Previously Presented)** The device of claim 1, wherein the interactive television device is coupled to a remote database and configured to periodically query the database to determine what services and content are available.